

Communities of Opportunity Initiative

Community Progress Report

January 1, 2010 – March 31, 2010

Due: Wednesday, March 31, 2010

Name of Community: Elbert
Date: 3/25/10

Local Champion: Anna Grant Jones, Development Authority of
Elbert Co., Elberton & Bowma

Co-Op Strategies	List Measures of Success, (Or Barriers If Applicable)	Action Items Completed for Each Strategy	Cost Estimate	Provide a Brief Description of Issues and Action Items to be Addressed Next Quarter
Improve availability of Hospital services		Hospital referendum as a result of community meeting held last Fall.		
workforce	Completion or certificate numbers and improvement by 6% in HS grad rate.	CWR Celebration	\$104	We will move into post-certification plan
Enriched Educational Experience	Raised graduation rate. Currently 68.2% and met AYP.	CWR grant funds for ECCHS and EC Library to assist in raising high school graduation rate	\$2,500.00 – ECCHS and \$2,562.00 - library	Testing of seniors again in the next school year and look for other ways to assist raising of grad rate.
Marketing		Web site for Dev. Auth. ARC grant funds helped.	\$3,000.00	The Ex. Dir. will continue to keep the web site updated and promote it to State partners.
Transportation-Complete 4-laning of Highway 72	72 back on the list	Regional group continues to meet with DOT. Also Elbert Co. Commissioners met with DOT and informed 72 back on the list.		The group will continue to lobby for the expansion to happen.
Tourism/Lake Russell	Completion of cottages	Three new cabins for Richard B. Russell. Persistence in communicating with DNR.	Utilizing prison labor.	The community will continue to lobby for more cottages and/or a lodge and campsites and promote the park.

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Transportation Extend runway at airport	Agreement to application by OneGeorgia	Submitted application to AirGeorgia/OneGeorgia to extend runway another 1,000 feet and repaving existing runway – target infrastructure expansion to encourage commercial and industrial growth.	\$2.7 million	
hospital		Applying for Critical Care Access. It improves reimbursement rate and offers other services.		
Enriched education experience	Volunteers to speak in every class in all three grades every month	Adopt-a-Class for all Middle School classes.	Community Partnership of Elbert Co. Ex. Director's time.	
Enriched educational experience		CHOICES program in 8 th grade. Monthly class headed by community volunteer. Interactive decision-making workshop assisting in making education, career and life choices. Ex. Time, money management and goal-setting.	\$650.00	
Insure Elbert Co. children are ready to learn upon entering school	Children receiving books.	Read at Home. The group continues to fundraise even in this difficult time. 15,144 books have been sent to Elbert County children birth to five.	\$36 per child per year. Currently we serve 400 a month, which is \$14,400 a year.	Continuing to fundraise and keep the program going.
Tourism at Richard B. Russell		Currently, the Development Authority and the City of Elberton are applying to ARC and OneGeorgia for funds for The		

State Park

City of Elberton to put high speed internet and tv service throughout the park. This is another step toward preparing the park for further development.